GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2912
ANSWERED ON:09.12.2002
PERMISSION FOR GENETICALLY MODIFIED SEEDS
RAMESH CHENNITHALA;SUNIL KHAN

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to permit genetically modified seeds of different crops for the use of farmers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether genetically modified agricultural products are coming into India, although they are banned in advanced countries; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Government to check such entries?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV)

(a)to(d): The import of genetically engineered products including agricultural products is regulated under Rule 11 of the Rules for the Manufacture, Use, Import, Export and Storage ofHazardous Micro-organisms/ Genetically Engineered Organisms or Cells, 1989 under Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.

The Genetic Engineering Approval Committee of Ministry of Environment & Forestshas, in its meeting held on 26.3.2002, granted approval for release into environment of three transgenic Bt cotton hybrid varieties developed by Maharashtra Hybrid Seed Company.

The Genetic Engineering Approval Committee of Ministry of Environment & Forests hasnot permitted entry of genetically modified food products in the country.